

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:855
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2013
DRYING OF WATER BODIES
Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether water bodies have dried up in many States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise; and
- (c) the corrective steps being taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) According to 3rd Minor Irrigation census conducted by Ministry of Water Resources with reference year 2000-2001, the total numbers of water bodies not in use were 85807, out of which 8152 water bodies were reported to be not in use due to dried up. The state-wise details of water bodies not in use due to dried up as per 3rd Minor Irrigation census are given in Annexure. The reasons for water bodies not in use are shifting away from community based tank system to individual beneficiary oriented ground water dependent system, inadequate maintenance, encroachments, diversion of land for other purposes, etc.

(c) To revive, restore and rehabilitate the traditional water bodies in India, the MoWR, Government of India had launched a pilot scheme for "Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" during X Plan. The works of 1085 water bodies were completed in 26 districts of 15 states.

During XI Plan, two schemes of Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies were launched- one with domestic support and the other with external assistance. Under the Scheme of Domestic Support, a total of 3341 Water Bodies were taken up for restoration in 12 States, out of which 1866 Water Bodies have been completed. A sum of Rs. 852.289 crore has been released to the states. Under the scheme of external assistance, 10887 Water Bodies were taken up for restoration in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The funds are directly released by the World Bank with the recommendation of Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of finance and not through Ministry of water Resources. The information may be available with DEA.

The scheme for RRR of water bodies for implementation during XII Plan is under formulation.